

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 remain in this application. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

A parallel PCT U.S. national phase patent application is identified above.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is eliminated by the amendment to claim 4 above.

Independent claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), along with claims 2-5, as anticipated by Japanese patent document 53-43321 to Inagaki. Reconsideration is requested. When cylinder operation is effected according to the present invention, two specific acts or operations are performed. In particular, a user operates a selector switch, or first and second selector switches, to select a cylinder, and the user operates a single operating device to engage the selected cylinder in operation when the pressure oil is allowed to flow to the selected cylinder. These features are reflected in both claim 1 and claim 7 above.

The Inagaki outrigger jack actuating system does not include a work hydraulic cylinder selected with a selector switch that is driven in response to a command issued from an operating device, after the pressure oil is allowed to flow to the at least one of the work hydraulic cylinders selected, by a pressure oil device as claim 1 above. The Inagaki outrigger jack actuating system is instead configured to select one of, two of, or all of outlet ports A-D of an operating valve 5 by moving the operating lever so that it is pushed forward, pulled, tilted to the right, or tilted to the left. In this way, a desired outrigger cylinder is operated.

It follows that claim 1 as amended above is not anticipated by the Inagaki patent document. Nothing noted by the Examiner suggests modifying the Inagaki outrigger jack actuating system so as to meet the limitations in claim 1 discussed, moreover, and claim 1 above is considered patentable. Claims 2-6, which depend on claim 1, are considered patentable as well.

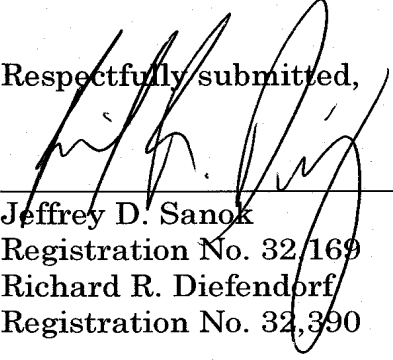
Independent claim 7 above even more particularly defines the outrigger cylinder driving structure and operation. While the comments set forth by the Examiner in the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) on page 4 of the Office Action are noted, nothing identified by the Examiner suggests that any outrigger cylinder selected with at least one of a first selector switch and a second selector switch is driven as claim 7 specifies. Again, nothing noted by the Examiner suggests modifying the Inagaki outrigger jack actuating system so as to meet the limitations in claim 7 discussed, and claim 7 above is considered patentable along with claims 1-6.

This application should now be allowable for reasons discussed. If there are any questions regarding this Reply or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an extension of time sufficient to effect a timely response. Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #101790.56537US).

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Respectfully submitted,



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